

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Nichol.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, at first the amendment does sound somewhat reasonable but I want to point out to you why it is not reasonable. We already have South Dakota, Colorado, Kansas and Missouri who are ahead of us. They have a 21 year old drinking age except for 3.2 beer. Now if we didn't have 3.2 beer in some of these other states, it would make the problem less complex. We don't have 3.2 beer and these other states do. They say you can drink at a younger age but with 3.2 beer so we can't hardly wait for every other state because they are not going to do away with 3.2 beer and they are not going to change the drinking age probably. So what we say to ourselves, no, we will sit here and we will sacrifice about 5 to 10 lives a year just so we will be with you but we will never be with you because they are not going to do what we want them to do. So it is an impossible amendment that is being offered. Senator Wesely said let's wait, let's wait, let's wait. A few years ago we had a bong bill in here having to do with drug paraphernalia. It didn't solve all of the problems, of course, but we heard at that time, let's wait, let's wait. Others said it is unconstitutional, let's not do it, but this Legislature was the leader in the nation and that bill was sound then. It is sound now. It has gone through the Supreme Court of the United States and it is still sound and we were a leader in that group and many other states have adopted what we did at that time. We can sit back and say, well, we are going to lose a few bucks, we are going to lose one driver a year going to Iowa and back but we will still sacrifice between 5 and 10 so that we can protect that one. It isn't reasonable to adopt this amendment, if we are going to have a bill. Let's just repeal it, let's just kill the bill if we are going to do this because it does the same thing and we will wait forever for Iowa and the rest that have 3.2 beer. They will never do it. So I urge you to defeat the Wesely amendment.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Sieck.

SENATOR SIECK: Mr. President, members of the body, I, too, support the Wesely amendment and I think you will notice that I voted aye for 99 years. I did this because in the paper here it says 90% of the accidents are caused by